

Dear Members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, My name is Susan Walkama and I am a Newington resident.

I am writing in support of SB 184 and HR 5262. As an older adult, I support including the risk of Covid 19 illness as a reason to submit an absentee ballot. Public health officials in Connecticut have predicted the emergence of new Covid variants and seasonal surges especially in the fall and winter months. As an older adult, I do not want to have to choose between my personal health and well being and my obligation and right to vote. My husband has cancer and we care for our unvaccinated, infant and toddler grandchildren. We are very cautious to avoid crowded places and unmasked people, especially during periods of Covid surges. Polling places will be those types of places during primaries and the November elections. I urge you to support and pass these bills so all residents of Connecticut can safely participate in our democracy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Walkama